



130

13+
TEEN



ALL IN

NIGHTWING



A NEW DAY IN BLÜDHAVEN

WATTERS
SOY
GANDINI

**BATMAN FACES THE TERRIFYING MYSTERY
OF A WORLD WITHOUT FEAR!**

**BATMAN[™]
IN**
**DETECTIVE
COMICS[™]**



Written by **TOM TAYLOR**
Art by **MIKEL JANÍN**

Detective Comics #1102 cover by Mikel Janín.



ALL IN

"The Courage That Kills"
starts in
SEPTEMBER'S
Detective Comics
#1101



NIGHTWING



CIRQUE DU SIN Part 1: What I Was Afraid Of



DAN WATTERS **writer** DEXTER SOY **artist** VERONICA GANDINI **colors** WES ABBOTT **letters**
DEXTER SOY **cover** JORGE FORNÉS, JUAN FERREYRA, AND KEVIN WADA **variant covers** ETHAN YOUNG 1:25 **variant cover**
JESSICA BERBEY **editor** ROB LEVIN **group editor** Nightwing created by MARV WOLFE and GEORGE PÉREZ.
Superman created by JERRY SIEGEL and JOE SHUSTER. By special arrangement with the Jerry Siegel family.



A large panel showing Nightwing in his blue and black suit, flying high above a city at night. The city is illuminated with warm, orange and yellow lights from buildings and streets. The perspective is looking down from above, emphasizing the height of the hero.

THIS IS
WHAT I WAS
AFRAID OF.

THE CITY
ACTING
AGAINST
ITS OWN
INTEREST.

A smaller panel showing Nightwing perched on the edge of a rooftop. In the background, a city skyline is visible under a dark sky with a full moon. The scene is dimly lit, with some city lights visible in the distance.

INSPIRED BY FEAR
AND BOMBAST TO
ELECT BERNARD
BISOONI AS MAYOR.

REINSTALLING IN ONE
STROKE THE CORRUPT
HEART I PUT SO MUCH
EFFORT INTO TEARING OUT
OF BLÜDHAVEN'S CHEST.

A panel showing a group of men in suits standing in a line. Nightwing is standing to the right, looking at them. The background shows a city street at night with buildings and lights.

BISOONI STILL THINKS
HIS CONNECTION TO
THE BLOCKBUSTER
GANG HAS FLOWN
UNDER THE RADAR.





BEFORE I CAN
WORRY ABOUT THE
MAYOR, I HAVE
MORE PRESSING
CONCERNS.



OLIVIA PEARCE OF
SPHERIC SOLUTIONS
SCAPEGOTED THE
CITY'S MAJOR GANGS
FOR A SERIES OF
TERROR ATTACKS
ACROSS THE CITY.



THIS ALLOWED HER COMPANY TO LAND LUCRATIVE DEFENSE
CONTRACTS, HEAVILY UPGRADING THE POLICE DEPARTMENT'S
WEAPONRY TO FACILITATE CRACKDOWNS ON THE GANGS.

THE CLEAN-CUT CREW
HAS RESPONDED BY
ATTEMPTING TO UPGRADE
THEIR OWN CAPABILITIES.



AT A GLANCE, IT LOOKS LIKE THEY'VE ATTEMPTED TO COMBINE MAN-BAT SERUM WITH VENOM.

STUPID.

VENOM-LADEN MUSCULATURE WILL MAKE THEM TOO HEAVY TO FLY, BUT IT'LL DO NOTHING FOR THEIR GENERALLY RELAXED DEMEANOR EITHER.

IF I DON'T THROW A WRENCH INTO THINGS ASAP, WE'RE LOOKING AT A BLOODBATH HERE ONE WAY OR ANOTHER.

LUCKY, LUCKY ME.



HEY,
KIDDIES.



HOW COME YOU
ALL NEVER INVITE ME TO
THESE COFFEE MORNINGS
ANYMORE?





NIGHTWING.
YOU PROMISED TO
STOP INTERFERING IN
OUR BUSINESS.

I PROMISED NOT
TO *BUST* YOU IF YOU
KEPT THE PEACE.

COMPLEX CONCEPT,
I KNOW. BUT YOU SEE HOW
HEAVILY ARMED COPS ARE
TRYING TO BUST THROUGH
THIS DOOR?



THAT
EQUALS *NOT*
PEACE.



AH
WELL.

AT LEAST
YOU BOUGHT US
ALL TIME TO
CHANGE.

OH
GOODY.

THIS IS WHAT I
WAS AFRAID OF...



...ESCALATION.





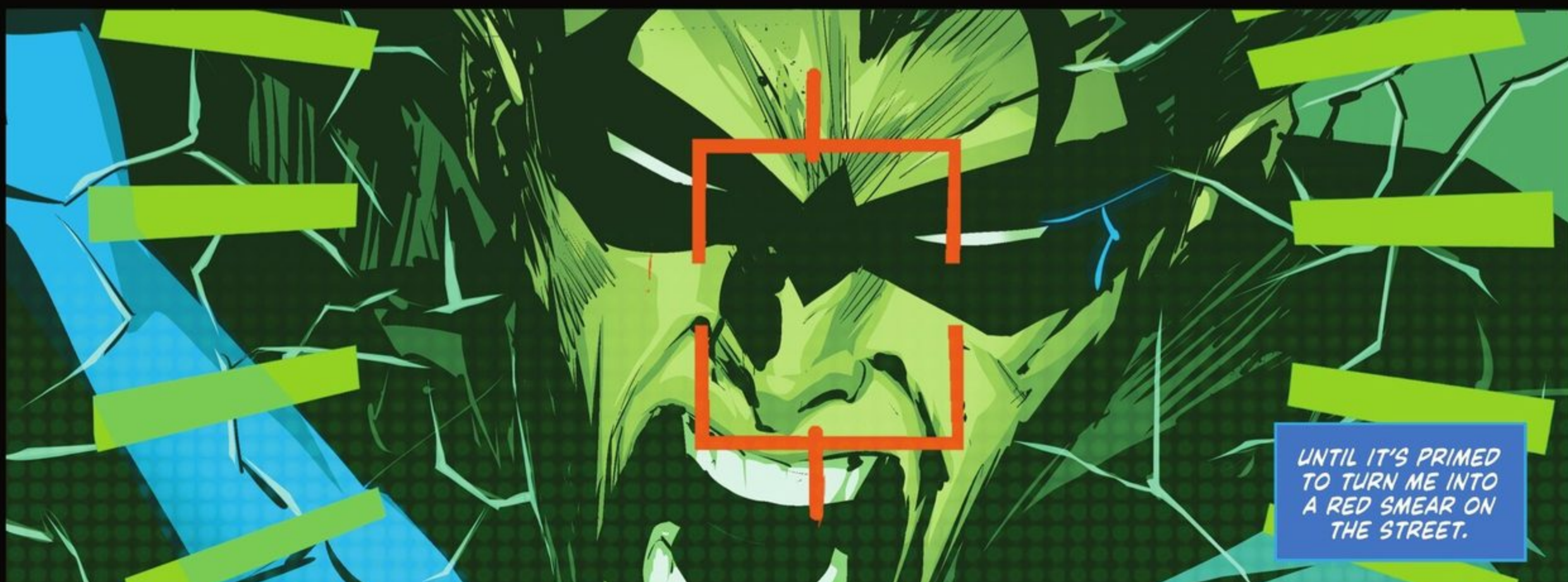
THESE SKIRMISHES ARE BECOMING TOO COMMON ON THE STREETS OF BLÜDHAVEN.



I CAN ONLY BE IN ONE PLACE AT A TIME. I CAN'T DRAW THE FIRE OF ALL THESE MUTANTS AND COPS INDEFINITELY... AND EXPECT TO DODGE IT ALL.



I BARELY EVEN NOTICE THE WANDERER ROBOT LOCKING ON TO ME UNTIL IT'S TOO LATE...



UNTIL IT'S PRIMED TO TURN ME INTO A RED SMEAR ON THE STREET.





DAMMIT.

NIGHTWING...

...WE
NEED TO
TALK.

HI, DAD.

THOUGHT WE WERE
STILL HAVING ONE OF OUR
SULKING-AT-EACH-OTHER
PHASES.



AH.

LEAGUE
BUSINESS,
HUH?



HE'S CALLING HIMSELF NIGHTWING-PRIME.

HE'S NOT **ACTUALLY** A KRYPTONIAN.

HE'S A BLÜDHAVEN STREET KID, GRANTED POWERS BY A FIFTH-DIMENSIONAL IMP TO **REPLICATE** THE POWERS OF A KRYPTONIAN.



THAT'S WHY WE'VE BEEN HEARING RUMORS, BUT **THE WATCHTOWER** HASN'T BEEN PICKING UP AND ALIEN SIGNAL.

WE KNOW BLÜDHAVEN IS YOUR CITY, DICK. AND WE WANT TO RESPECT THAT. YOU JUST HAVE TO UNDERSTAND...

I KNOW. THAT MUCH POWER. IN THE WRONG HANDS, IT'S AN S-LEVEL THREAT TO THE JUSTICE LEAGUE.

AND THE LEAGUE IS ALWAYS READY TO STEP IN AND ASSIST SHOULD IT COME TO THAT, NIGHTWING.

I'VE BEEN TRYING TO CATCH UP TO HIM FOR **WEEKS**. HE WON'T LET ME GET CLOSE...BUT AS FAR AS I CAN TELL, ALL HE'S BEEN DOING IS TRYING TO HELP.



MY KRYPTONIAN HERITAGE BEGAN TO SHOW ITSELF WHEN I WAS JUST A BOY.

AT TIMES IT COULD BE **TERRIFYING**.

THE RESPONSIBILITY OF NAVIGATING A WORLD THAT SUDDENLY FELT LIKE IT WAS MADE OF STYROFOAM.

I HAD TO GO THROUGH THAT. I HAD TO WATCH MY SON GO THROUGH THAT.



IF IT WASN'T A PART OF WHO WE **ARE**...

I KNOW.

HE SHOULDN'T HAVE TO SHOULDER THAT. THE POOR KID'S BEEN THROUGH ENOUGH.





I'LL MAKE HIM UNDERSTAND HE NEEDS TO CHANGE BACK.

I'VE GOT IT UNDER CONTROL.



GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME.

IF YOU NEED US. AT ALL...

APPRECIATED.

BOOM



J'ONN? YOU OKAY?

THOUGHT I SAW...



NO. NOTHING.



"...I KNOW EXACTLY
WHERE HE'S GOING
TO BE TOMORROW."



HARD TO
BELIEVE IT'S
ONLY BEEN
A MONTH.





A MONTH SINCE THE COPS KILLED MY BROTHER IN FRONT OF ME.

A MONTH SINCE I WAS SO WEAK I COULD DO NOTHING BUT STAND AND WATCH.



I'M SORRY FOR WHAT WENT DOWN BETWEEN US, NIGHTWING. IN TITANS TOWER.

I WOULDN'T REALLY HAVE *KILLED* YOU OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT.

IN THERE... MY MEMORIES WERE ALL MUDDLED. AND EVERYTHING FELT LIKE *PLAY*.



I GET THAT, BRYCE. THE FIFTH DIMENSION CAN DO A NUMBER ON ANYONE.

YOU'RE... *YOURSELF* AGAIN? MENTALLY?

I STILL HAVE SOME OF HIM IN THE BACK OF MY MIND. *VAN-ZEE, THE FIRST NIGHTWING.*

BUT YEAH. I'M ME FOR THE MOST PART.

THAT'S GOOD. 'CAUSE I BROUGHT SOMEONE YOU MIGHT WANT TO SEE.



NIGHT-HARE!



YOU LEFT HIM AT THE TOWER.

YOU'RE A LOT BETTER AT LOOKING AFTER HIM THAN I AM.



I...I'M SCARED TO *TOUCH* HIM. I DON'T WANT TO HURT HIM ON ACCIDENT.

I'M SO STRONG NOW.

WELL. WE CAN FIX THAT.



NITE-MITE SOUP. HE STILL HASN'T RECONSTITUTED HIMSELF AFTER HIS SHENANIGANS AT THE TOWER.

BUT A DROP OF THIS SHOULD TURN YOU BACK INTO *BRYCE MORAN*.



ARE YOU GOING TO MAKE ME?



I'M PRETTY SURE YOU COULD THROW ME INTO THE SUN FROM HERE, SO I DON'T THINK I CAN *MAKE* YOU DO ANYTHING.

BUT IT'S THE RIGHT THING FOR YOU TO DO.



I HAVE X-RAY VISION NOW. IT'S TAKING ACTUAL EFFORT NOT TO SEE THROUGH THE GROUND. THROUGH MY BROTHER'S COFFIN.

I DON'T WANT TO SEE THAT.

I THOUGHT THESE POWERS WERE GOING TO BE AMAZING, AND THEY WERE FOR A LITTLE WHILE.

I CAN DO **FANTASTIC** THINGS NOW. BUT I HAVE TO BE **SO** CAREFUL.

I'M SCARED I COULD SNEEZE AND KILL PEOPLE.



I UNDERSTAND WHY YOU WOULDN'T WANT ME TO BE THIS STRONG.

BUT... I'LL BE A KID AGAIN.

I'LL BE THE FRAGILE ONE, ALL BREAKABLE AND USELESS.



THERE'S SOMETHING VERY WRONG WITH BLÜDHAVEN, ISN'T THERE?

I HAVE THIS FEELING IN MY GUT. LIKE SOMETHING WICKED IS COMING OUR WAY.

LIKE THERE'S SOMETHING LURKING, JUST OUT OF THE CORNER OF MY EYE.



I WANTED TO **HELP**. TO DO WHAT YOU DO.

TO MAKE OUR CITY **BETTER**.



BUT I DON'T WANT TO BE ANOTHER PROBLEM FOR YOU, NIGHTWING.





UGH.
OKAY.



YOU'RE
GOING TO NEED
TRAINING.

A LOT OF
TRAINING.



THIS IS WHAT I
WAS AFRAID OF.



NOT THAT BRYCE
WOULD MAKE A
GOOD POINT.

THAT HE'D TALK
ME INTO LETTING
HIM TRY TO BE A
SUPERHERO...



BUT THAT
SOMEONE
ELSE WOULD
BE FEELING
IT TOO.



THIS ACHE
IN THE PIT
OF MY GUT.



THE SENSE OF
SOMETHING EVIL
JUST OUTSIDE
MY PERIPHERY...

...AND THEN I WOULDN'T
BE ABLE TO DISMISS IT
ANYMORE AS PARANOIA
BORN OF A THOROUGHLY
UNUSUAL LIFE.

LOOK. IT'S
THERE AGAIN
TONIGHT.

AND IT
LOOKS ALL
SOLID NOW. NOT
SEE-THROUGH
AT ALL.

LET'S
GO CHECK
IT OUT.

NO. I DON'T THINK
IT'S REAL. I DON'T
BELIEVE IT'S REALLY
THERE. IT'S JUST...
A BAD DREAM.

DON'T BE
A SCAREDY-CAT.
JUST THINK...

...WHAT
WOULD
NIGHTWING
DO?

TO BE CONTINUED...



HERE IN THE DARK,
IN THE MOMENTS
BEFORE IT BEGINS.

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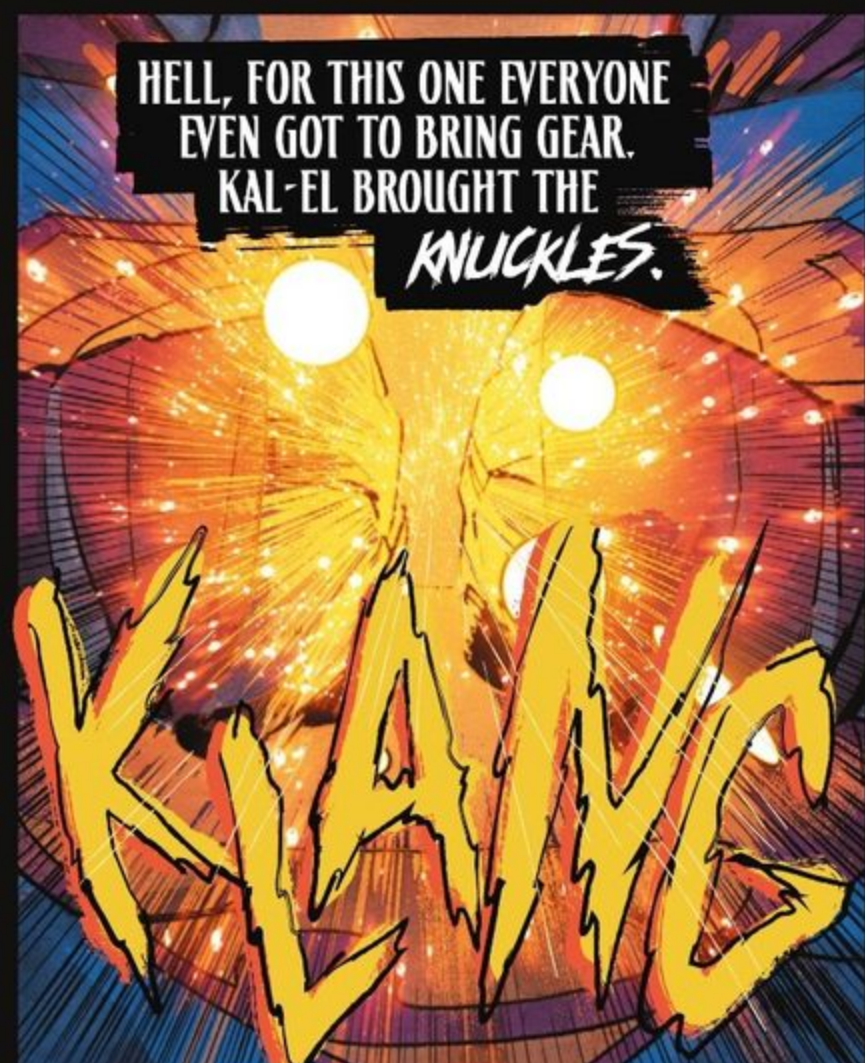
HE TELLS HIMSELF
IT'S JUST ANOTHER
FIGHT—



A BRAWL LIKE
COUNTLESS
ONES BEFORE.



HELL, FOR THIS ONE EVERYONE
EVEN GOT TO BRING GEAR.
KAL-EL BROUGHT THE
KNUCKLES.



HE FORGED THEM IN
THE FORTRESS YEARS
AGO, AFTER RETURNING
FROM THE DEAD.



KNUCKLES WITH
MINIATURE SUNS
RAGING INSIDE, ANGRY
SUNS TAKEN FROM
EMPTY UNIVERSES...

HE THOUGHT ABOUT CALLING
THEM "DAWNSDAY"
KNUCKLES, BUT LOIS SHUT
THAT DOWN FAST.

EVEN SO...
WITH THEM HE'S
STRONGER,
FASTER,
READY TO
THROW DOWN.

HE'S FOUGHT
TOUGHER FIGHTS
THAN THIS.
FOUGHT IN OTHER
DIMENSIONS, OTHER
UNIVERSES, FOUGHT
GODS, TITANS...



...WHAT'S ONE
MORE FIGHT?

AND THEN THE
DOORS OPEN—



WHAT
THE--



IT'S ALL RIGHT. WHY DON'T WE EAT?

FOOD'S STILL COOKING. NICE TRY, THOUGH.

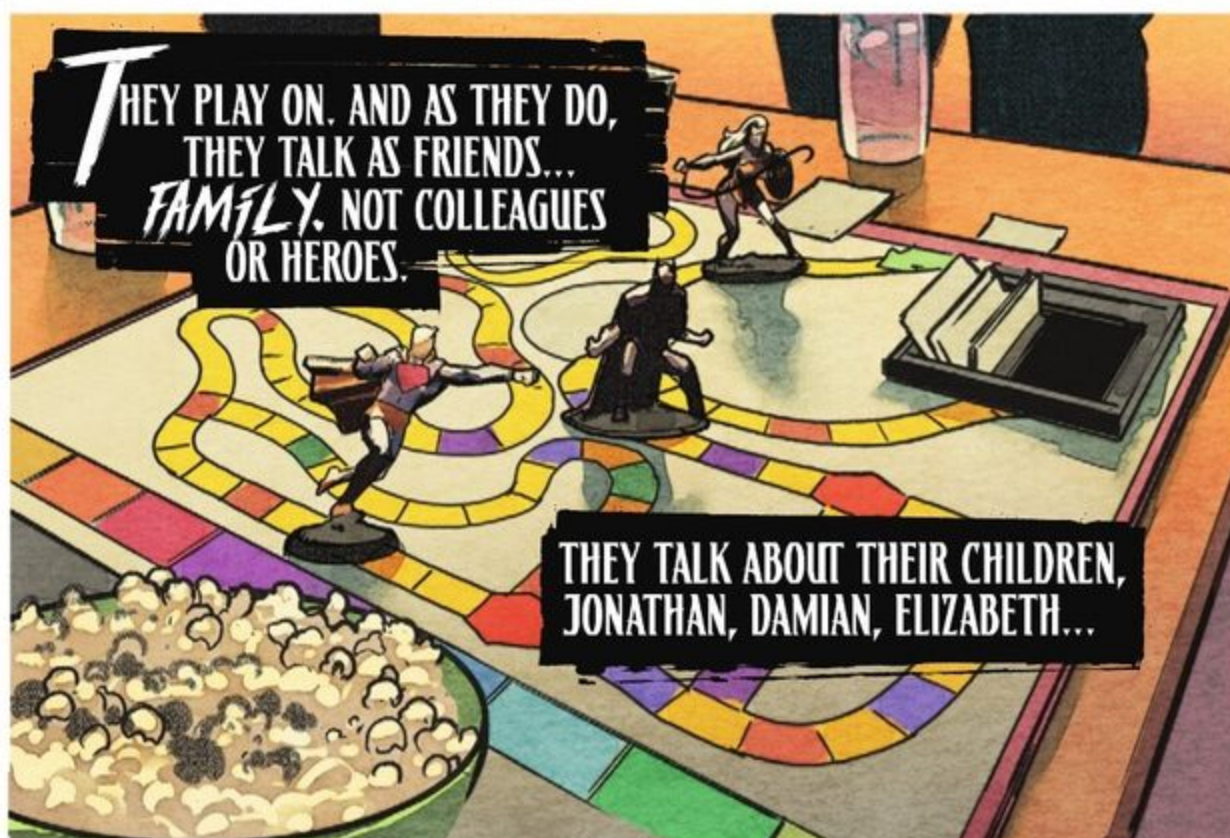
YOU JUST NEED A STRATEGY, CLARK. THE WHOLE GAME IS STRATEGY.



OR YOU COULD STOP ARGUING AND PLAY HARD. WATCH AND LEARN...

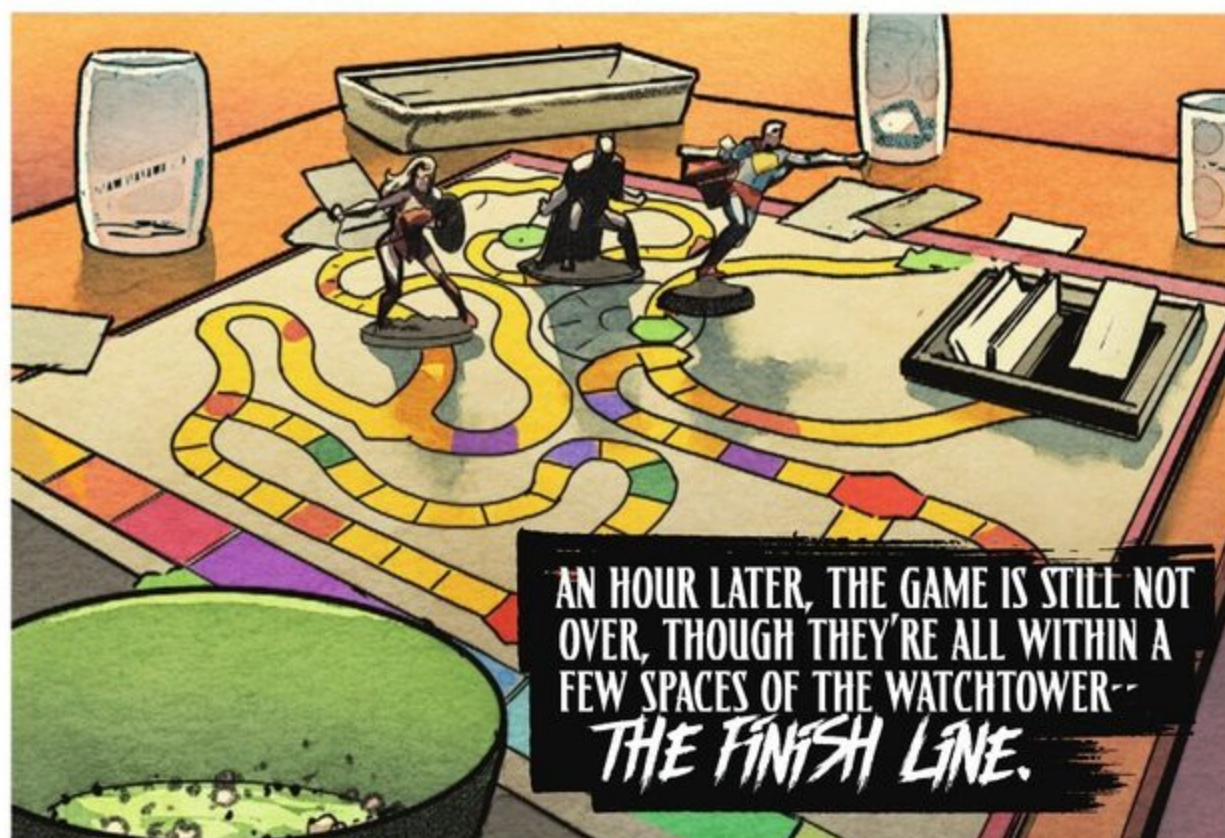
TWELVE!

MOVE UP ONE ROW.



THEY PLAY ON. AND AS THEY DO, THEY TALK AS FRIENDS... **FAMILY**. NOT COLLEAGUES OR HEROES.

THEY TALK ABOUT THEIR CHILDREN, JONATHAN, DAMIAN, ELIZABETH...



AN HOUR LATER, THE GAME IS STILL NOT OVER, THOUGH THEY'RE ALL WITHIN A FEW SPACES OF THE WATCHTOWER—**THE FINISH LINE.**



DIANA IS ABOUT TO ROLL THE WINNING ROLL WHEN LOIS SAYS IT...

GUYS, WHY IS IT SO BRIGHT OUT?



Dear god...

WHAT CLARK SEES OUT THE WINDOW MAKES HIS BLOOD RUN COLD.

DARKSEID.

THE HEROES' OLDEST
AND GREATEST FOE.
MAYBE THE MOST FAMILIAR
ENEMY THEY HAVE.

BUT *THIS* DARKSEID HAS
BECOME SOMETHING ELSE.
SOMETHING MORE.

HE ISN'T JUST BIGGER,
STRONGER...
HE'S **EVERYTHING.**
A UNIVERSE OF POWER
GIVEN FORM.

EVERYWHERE HE LOOKS,
THE CITY BECOMES HIS.
NO, CLARK THINKS, NOT *HIS*...
IT BECOMES *HIM*.
CLARK CAN *SEE* IT HAPPENING.

EVERY PARTICLE,
EVERY MOLECULE,
EVERY **ATOM** IS OF
DARKSEID.

AS THEY CHARGE HIM, CLARK—
TELLS HIMSELF THEY'VE DONE THIS
BEFORE. THEY'VE FOUGHT UXAS
DOZENS OF TIMES AND **WON...**

...THIS FIGHT IS
LIKE **NOTHING**
THEY'VE FACED.
EVER...

TO BE CONTINUED IN **K&L** #1 ON SALE IN OCTOBER!



MARVEL

BATMAN DEADPOOL

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MEETS THE MERC WITH A MOUTH!**

Written by
GRANT MORRISON

Art by
DAN MORA

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NATION

SPOTLIGHT ON

C.O.R.T. CHILDREN OF THE ROUND TABLE

INTERVIEW WITH DANIELE DI NICUOLO

Artist Daniele Di Nicuolo has teamed with Tom Taylor at DC on issues of *Nightwing* and *Titans*, along with their creator-owned series *Seven Secrets* at BOOM! Studios. Their next collaboration is DC's *C.O.R.T.: Children of the Round Table*, a six-issue all-ages series starting this September, introducing a new cast of heroes outside of the DC Universe—Taylor and Di Nicuolo take on Arthurian lore, as ancient, talking weapons meet current-day children of destiny.

When did you first engage with Arthurian stories?

I'm pretty sure it dates back to when I was a child. I've seen dozens of movies and cartoons themed around Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table, though I don't have a precise memory of them. However, I do remember my fascination with the various visual interpretations given to both the knights' armor and their weapons, and above all, I found the concept of the Round Table—a place where everyone was equal, including the king—to be fascinating.



You've worked with Tom at DC and elsewhere—what makes the collaboration between the two of you special?

Working with Tom is always such a pleasure because he has this incredible power to make you fall in love with a character with just a single line.

Every line of dialogue he writes opens a door to the emotions, dynamics, and actions of the characters, and this aligns perfectly with my

passion for visual acting and intense action. Collaborating with him means I always have something powerful to say, whether in the most intimate moments or the most spectacular.



What's the importance to you of telling all-ages stories in the monthly comics format?

Much has changed in entertainment in recent years, especially since the pandemic. Young readers have become even more demanding and eager to engage with stories and characters that excite them and inspire them to follow, and a monthly series like this aims to offer them exactly that: new heroes they can bond with, perhaps identify with, and whose adventures they eagerly await each month. It's also a great way to introduce them to the world of serialized comics and the places where comics thrive.



Being able to accompany a parent or relative to a comic book store every month and finally find something made just for them is a wonderful experience, one that we hope will draw even more young readers to this wonderful medium: comics.

If you had a talking weapon, what kind of weapon (and personality) would you want?

I'd love to have a sword full of energy and heroic positivity, always ready to cheer me up and help me to wake up early to go to the gym. [Laughs]



**DON'T MISS
C.O.R.T.: CHILDREN OF
THE ROUND TABLE #1
ON SALE NOW!**

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